

District Highlights

May 2018 Vol. 18 No. 4

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WEBSITE:

www.westernpacob.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday ~ Friday
8:00 am ~ 4:00 pm

Please send **all**
Highlights information
to the District Office by
the **10th**.

Within the life of the Church, we often speak of "stewardship," and by this we usually mean the managing of the church's financial resources in a way that is wise and pleasing to God. We also use "stewardship" to refer to a person's management of his own financial resources to God's glory.

But we can also think of stewardship in terms of seeking the Holy Spirit's help and direction to wisely employ all of the spiritual gifts of the people within our congregation to serve the Lord. The stewarding of a church's gifts before God for ministry can be an exciting thing. We look for the Holy Spirit to blend all of our people's gifts for the achieving of a vital mission. In looking at "stewardship" in this way, we go far beyond just managing the finances and property of the church.

Would you say that there is anyone in your church, any group, looking to steward the spiritual talents of the congregation in this way? Perhaps each congregation ought to have a group to do this, just as we have Trustees or Stewards to oversee church financial assets.

As we face the challenge of Christian mission in a culture that no longer values the gospel and church life as it once did, we need to seek a new vitality that is based upon the work of the Holy Spirit through spiritual gifts. Rather than seeing the church's constitution and church board at the center of the congregation's functioning, we should see the Holy Spirit at the center of the church's life and work. This shift in focus alone can bring revitalization, hope, and power that was not there before.

May I suggest that your church set up a "Spiritual Power and Spiritual Gifts Team" that through prayer, discernment, and encouragement would work to steward the gifts God has given to your church. Let's work to steward all aspects of the spiritual resources God has given us for serving Him in our day.

"O Lord God, through the power of your Holy Spirit, unite us in a powerful mission as we faithfully administer Your grace in its various forms. In Jesus' name and for His sake, Amen."

Blessings to you!

Bill Wenger



District Office/Local Church News

NEW MEMBERS

Geiger Congregation

- Rick Leer
- David Shaulis

Meyersdale Congregation

- Sarah Jones Meyers
- Ronald Meyers
- Todd Marshall
- Peg Marshall
- Erica Lowery
- Kylie DeArmitt
- Emma DeArmitt
- Shane Keim
- Tara Keim
- Lexi Wright
- Brenda Vaughn

2018 DISTRICT DIRECTORY

The 2018 District Directory is now available.

Digital and published copies have been mailed and emailed. Please let me know if there are changes or additions. Corrections and additions are posted below and in future Highlights.

If you would like a PDF or a paper copy, please contact the District Office at 814-479-2181 or email Tina Lehman at tlehman@brethren.org.

DISTRICT DIRECTORY UPDATES

Most of these changes were made in the Directory PDF file that was emailed at the end of February. If you received a paper copy, please note these changes, thank you!

Pages 32 & 34 - **PHONE NUMBER CHANGE:**
Windber COB—817-467-6179

June 2018

Highlights Deadline

May 10, 2017

Please send all Highlights information to the District Office for this next issue.

NEED YOUR HELP

If your congregation will produce a new directory in **2018**, please drop off or send a copy to the District Office, 115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, 15935.

It is very helpful to the District Office staff to have updated information from all the churches we serve.

Thank you!



If you are a pastor and are interested in becoming a pastoral mentor in the Western PA District, please contact the Pastor & Parish Leadership Team or the District Office.

AbbsTract May 2018

Do you ever have trouble offering yourself to God in prayer? I know I sure do. Sometimes it's because my heart is heavy or overwhelmed and I don't know what to think, let alone how to express that to the Father (Romans 8:26). Sometimes it's because I am in total awe of the fact that God actually bends down to listen to me (Psalm 116:2). That because of Jesus' work on the cross, I have unrestricted access to the God who rules heaven and earth (Mark 15:38). Sometimes, I have a hard time focusing and organizing my thoughts. I want to pray, but a thousand other things are vying for my attention. Closing my eyes doesn't help, because I might doze off. And straight silence can be a bit unnerving.

What is a person to do?

Well, I have found that praying the Scriptures is a valuable exercise for disciples like me. There is POWER in praying God's Word! Here are a few ideas for you to put into practice:

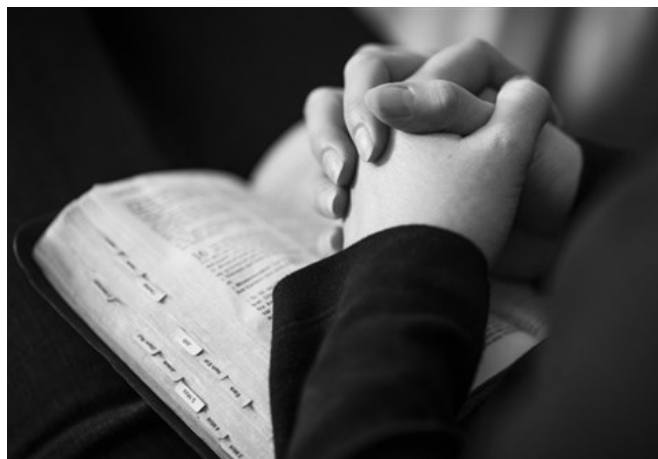
- Start your prayer time with a song of worship – doesn't need to be fancy or long – just offer your praise to the Lord.
- Sing a song that comes out of the Word, like Seek Ye First; 10,000 Reasons; As the Deer; Glorious Day; In Christ Alone.
- Give thanks to God for hearing you and loving you. Thank Him for the good work He's about to do in you. Ask Him to speak to you as you listen.

Now, there are two main approaches to praying the Word: One is to choose a passage and center your prayer on that passage; for instance, using a psalm to guide you in prayer. You can also pray topically and find verses to add, one by one, to your prayer for missionaries, for your pastor, for healing, etc.

You can see an example of both on the next page.

- If you pray a passage, start in the Psalms – many of them are song-prayers to the Lord. Fortunately, David was an honest guy and we can relate to a lot of his prayers. Some express joy, some sorrow, others fear. Each one celebrates total trust in the Lord.
- What I like to do is to read through some psalms, and when I settle on one to pray, I write it down slowly, meditating on the words. Sometimes I use two different colors of ink and I write personal details in between the lines. *Please understand me: this is NOT an attempt to re-write or change Scripture. Do not call the District office and yell at me for violating Deuteronomy 4:2 or Revelation 22:18. Seriously. This is not that.* What I'm saying is that an exercise like this can help you to relate to, internalize and personalize the text so that God's Word becomes your prayer.
- You can also write verses down in a notebook as you find them, and organize them by topic. Construct prayers from Scripture to pray over your children, over your church, over each day. Because you are praying from the Living Word, these prayers will not get stale, even if you pray them often.
- Our Father loves to hear His Word coming from us. It shows we've paid attention to it and are growing in it! (Like when you hear your grown children telling their children the same words you used to tell them.) There is holy power in the Word of God.

Give it a shot!



AbbsTract May 2018

My prayer from Psalm 130:

Out of the depths *of self-focus and ignorance and confusion and fear*, I cry to You, O Lord;

O Lord, hear my *shaky, pleading* voice.

Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, *a big ol' filing cabinet of wrongs*,

O Lord, who could stand? *So heavy*.

But with You there is forgiveness;

PARDON – REDEMPTION – NEW HOPE – SECOND CHANCES;

therefore, You are feared.

I wait for the Lord, *to speak, to reveal, to heal, to inform, to revive, to appear*.

My soul waits.

And in His *precious and excellent* Word I put my hope.

My *tired, wondering* soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning. *Even* more than watchmen wait for the morning.

O Israel, *O Abby*, put your hope in the Lord, *and in no one else*,

For with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption.

Complete restoration!

He Himself will redeem Israel from all her sins.

He is my Redeemer, too! Amen!

A prayer for Pastors:

Ps 31:23 - Father, I thank You for faithful pastors whom You preserve,

Gal 6:9 - and ask that they may not grow weary in doing good.

Phil 1:6 - That You who began a good work in them will complete and perfect it.

Eph 2:10 - They are Your workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works.

2Cor 9:8 - Let all grace abound toward them, having sufficiency in all things, and abundance for every good work.

2Cor 9:6 - Because they have sowed bountifully, they will reap bountifully,

1Cor 3:6 - and whether they plant or water, Father, we know You give the increase.

2Cor 2:14 - I pray that they continually triumph in Christ, diffusing the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

2Tim 2:21 - Let them be vessels of honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

2Cor 10:4 - In Jesus' name, I tear down the strongholds over them and their ministries.

Ex 23:25 - Sickness and disease shall in no way come near them,

Gal 3:13 - for they are redeemed from the curse of the law.

Isa 54:17 - I declare that no weapon formed against them will prosper,

Acts 6:4 - as they continually give themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word.

Through Christ I pray, Amen.

Local Church/District News

District Women's Ministries:

Calendar of Events 2018:

- May 4—5** Spring Retreat—
Camp Harmony
- June 7** Camp Day—Camp Harmony
- August 11** Summer Tea—TBA
- October 4** Home Day

*Mark your calendars,
more information to follow!*

CELEBRATING
100
YEARS

The **Sipesville COB** is celebrating it's 100th anniversary this year!

All are welcome to attend the festivities during the weekend of July 28 and 29, 2018.

There will be a campfire, worship, fellowship meal and hymn sing.

More information will be coming soon!

Events at the Penn Run Christian Outreach Center

(located directly across the street from the
Penn Run Church of the Brethren)

PA Dutch Buffet

May 5, 2018

From 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

*Call the church office at 724-463-0420 for more information.

Indoor Yard Sale

June 2, 2018

8:00 am to 2:00 pm

A 10x10 space with an 8' table is available for \$10.
Have your yard sale with us!

Please call Lori Fackler for more information
at 724-349-2929.

Heifer International Gratitude



Thank you for the generous donation and longtime support for our work ending hunger and poverty in the world! (And our beginnings!) Your gift will help many families improve their lives, nourish and educate their children, and have the joy of helping others as they pass on the gift of an animal and training to another family in need. Thank you for being partners in our work since 1996!

Valerie Danzey
Heifer Coordinator for NJ, PA, & DE

An inspiring video clip: Meet a Future Grad <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wh6TILjTAYM> (2:44 minutes)

Reminder: May 6, 2018 is National Youth Sunday

Also remember this year is
National Youth Conference

Take time to pray for our youth as they face so many different challenges. Also pray for everyone involved with NYC, they are working hard to create a wonderful experience for all.



Local Church/District News

Church and School Safety Seminar

Salisbury Faith Factory—Salisbury COB
153 Union Street, Salisbury

July 28, 2018
8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Violent crime at church has increased every year since the late 90's. Setting a Watch Ministries is dedicated to informing churches and schools about the current trends and teaching them how to respond legally and effectively.

The Church and School Safety for Today Seminar is a day long event that will:

- Examine practical security solutions
- Present crime prevention strategies
- Discuss Active Shooter threats
- Explain typical police response
- Prepare attendees for the mental and physical aftermath of a violent encounter

Register at settingawatch.com/salisbury

Early Bird Registration—before June 30, 2018
\$40*

Online Registration—after June 30, 2018
\$55*

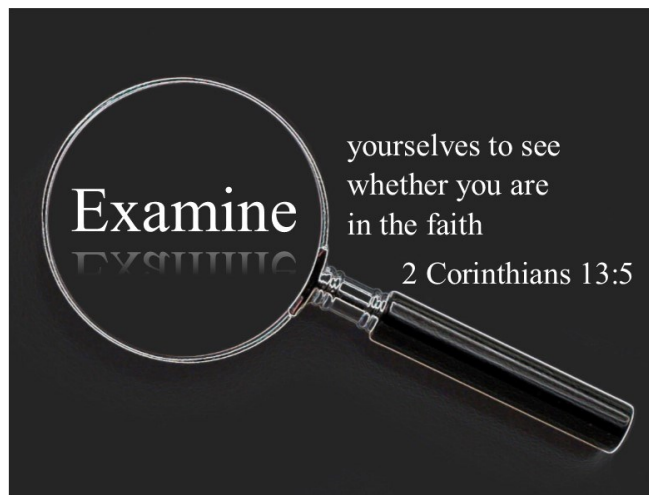
Group Rate—Groups of 12+
\$35

At The Door—Day of Event
\$65

* Taxes and fees not included



Once again Harvest USA would like to have a booth at Annual Conference in Cincinnati. The District is looking to the churches for donations to be able to pay for their booth. Please contact the District Office if your congregation would like to donate.



2018 District Conference **October 20, 2018** **Camp Harmony**

Mark your calendars, more information will be coming to your churches soon!

Brethren Revival Fellowship Events

Brethren Bible Institute

July 23—27, 2018

Summer Term

Registration deadline June 25, 2018

Brethren Alive 2018

July 27—29, 2018

Joy for the Journey—national gathering of Anabaptist oriented evangelical Brethren to celebrate our life in Christ and encourage on another to spiritual growth and faithfulness.

Registration deadline is June 25, 2018

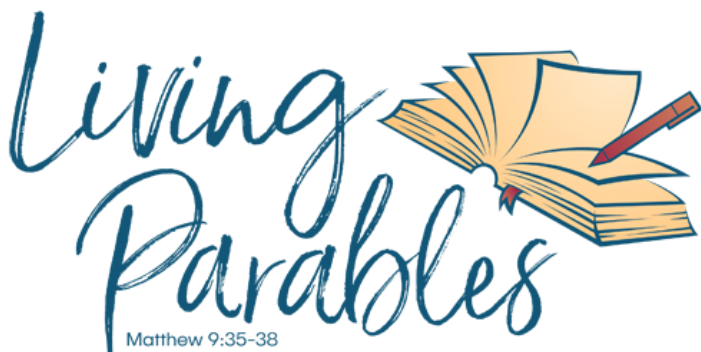
Registrations need to be **MAILED** to
Brethren Bible Institute
155 Denver Road, Denver, PA 17517

Please contact the District Office for registration forms



Denominational News

go to www.brethren.org for the most complete and up to date news from the Church of the Brethren



"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'"
(Matthew 9:35-38)

Annual Conference 2018

July 4—8, 2018

Duke Energy Convention Center
Cincinnati, OH

Registration is now open!

<http://www.brethren.org/ac/2018/registration/>

More information to follow,
please watch the upcoming issues
of the District Highlights!



Inspiring and informative Catered Meal Events at Annual Conference

A wide variety of special meal events will be offered during the 2018 Annual Conference in Cincinnati, July 4-8. Each event includes a meal and program. For more information about any of these meal events go to:

www.brethren.org/ac/2018/activities/meal-events

Baseball Game Group Outing: Cincinnati Reds playing the Chicago White Sox



Tuesday, July 3 - 7:10 p.m.

Join us for an evening of fun as we go together to the Great American Ballpark* to see the Cincinnati Reds play the Chicago White Sox. Enjoy America's favorite past-time with other Brethren. Great for the whole family!

Tickets: \$12.00 each when you register in advance for Annual Conference. Pick up your ticket at Registration "Will Call" in the Convention Center Exhibit Hall B beginning at 3:00 Tuesday afternoon. Tickets will *not* be for sale onsite, **so order online before June 11.**

Denominational News

go to www.brethren.org for the most complete and up to date news from the Church of the Brethren



National Youth Conference

July 21—26, 2018

Colorado State University

Fort Collins, Colorado

For youth who have completed 9th grade through 1 year of college (or the age equivalent)

The registration fee is \$500. A non-refundable deposit of \$250 must be paid at the time of registration.

The balance is due by April 30th, 2018.

The theme is "Bound Together, Clothed in Christ" based on Colossians 3:12-15.

Emilie Deffenbaugh from the Somerset COB is a member of the National Youth Cabinet, if you have any questions about the event please contact her at deffn75h@richlandrams.net



From the NYC Office:

All Church of the Brethren congregations are invited to participate in three NYC Offerings, even if they are not sending youth. Offering should be sent to the NYC Office (1451 Dundee Avenue, Elgin, IL, 60120) prior to NYC, July 21-26, 2018

Here are some suggestions:

Clean-up buckets:

NYC hopes to give 600 clean-up buckets to victims of natural disasters. Please send financial gifts or kit supplies (excluding buckets, laundry detergent, and liquid household cleaner—all of which will be provided on site).

Sending new or gently used sewing scissors: NYC will hopefully cut 2,400 t-shirts into diaper pieces for Diapers for Haiti. After being sewn, those 2,400 diapers would provide Midwives for Haiti with a one year's supply.

NYC Scholarship Fund:

Congregations may send financial gifts to The NYC Team as they are hoping to welcome up to 20 international Brethren youth from around the world. The NYC Scholarship Fund makes this possible, by helping with the cost of travel and registration for youth from a number of places, including Brazil, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria, India.

Thank you all for your generous support!

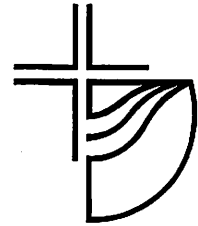


We, though, are going to love—love and be loved. First we were loved, now we love. He loved us first. If anyone boasts, "I love God," and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, he is a liar. If he won't love the person he can see, how can he love the God he can't see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both. *1 John 4:19-21 The Message*

Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren

115 Spring Road Hollsopple, Pennsylvania 15935-7412

814 479-7058 814 479-2181



Church of the Brethren

March 22, 2018

To the Pastors, Leaders, and Members of the Churches of the Western Pennsylvania District of the Church of the Brethren,

Greetings to you in the name of Christ our Lord and Redeemer!

I am writing you today on behalf of the Sale Committee for the Brethren Home at Windber and on behalf of the Western PA District of the Church of the Brethren. We want to let you know that the Brethren Home at Winder has been sold as of Friday, March 16, 2018. All of the Home's current debts have been paid, and all of its current creditors have received full payment regarding what was owed them.

The new owners are Community Healthcare Operator, Inc., and the facility will now be known as "Windber Woods Senior Living & Rehabilitation Center."

We are very thankful to the LORD that He has carried us through this process and has provided a way for the facility to continue caring for its residents and cottagers. We thank everyone who has lifted this process up in prayer.

A surplus for the District has been generated by the sale of the Home. At the recommendation of the attorneys involved in this sale, the District will need to keep these funds in an easily accessible investment for at least two years. The funds must be held in reserve to meet possible future contingencies involved in a sale of this nature. But again, the good news is that all current debts and current creditors have been paid in full, and the Western PA District is out from under any debt for which we were responsible due to our being the owners of the Brethren Home.

As to budgeted funds or special offerings that your church may have been sending to the Brethren Home, we recommend that you now give those funds to other ministries such as Camp Harmony, the Western PA District, or other Christian charities. The "Brethren Home" no longer exists as a ministry of the Church of the Brethren, and thus your offerings would only contribute to the new owners' operating budget.

As of this writing, we are seeking to find out to what degree the churches and church volunteers will be able to continue providing ministries at the facility. The initial response has been that the new owners are open to such and will be glad for volunteers' help in enriching the lives of the residents. More information on this will be forthcoming.

So we express praise to God for all of the years that the Brethren Home at Windber served as a ministry of the Western PA District Church of the Brethren, and we lift up our prayers for "Windber Woods" as it supplies care to all of its residents.

May the LORD God bless you all with increased faith and an ongoing desire to serve His name in many ways!

Most sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Wenger". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

William Wenger, District Executive
Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren

AVAILABLE SPEAKERS LIST – May 2018

ORDAINED

ABRAHAM, FARREL – 4315 Seton Dr, Pittsburgh, 15227-1245 – 412-979-0067
BEACHLEY, RONALD D. – PO Box 723, Davidsville, 152928-0723 – 814-479-4802
BERKEBILE, WES J. – 4285 State Route 208, New Wilmington, 16142 – 724-901-7058
DEFFENBAUGH, BARRON K. - 207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904 - 814 266-9758
DERMER, JOANN - 3062 Hyndman Rd, Hyndman, 15545 - 814 842-6489
DERR, AMELIA – 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262
DERR, HORACE - 1202 Roberts Street, Nanty Glo, 15943-1325 – 814-749-0262
EASH, JOHN E. - 131 Friendship Ln, Hollsopple, 15935-6732 - 814 629-0206
HOUGHTON, JAMES E. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 -814 255-2431
HOUGHTON, SALLY M. - 124 Lindberg Ave, Johnstown, 15905-3019 -814 255-2431
KABLER, ERIC P. - 126 Clermont St, Johnstown 15904-2132 - 814 266-2734
KENSINGER, JAMES M. - 329 Spackman St, Seward, 15954-3117 - 814 446-1088
MANGES, JOHN W. – 137 Catskill Ln, Johnstown, 15904-7523 814-539-3332
MARSHALL, HOMER H. - 369 W Church Ave, Masontown, 15461-1651 -724 583-7073
MARSHALL, PATRICIA M. - 369 W Church Ave, Masontown, 15461-1651 -724 583-7073
MOSORJAK, GARY N. – 1337 Roxbury Avenue, Johnstown, 15905-1224 – 814-619-4238
RUMMEL, DALE E. - 6171 Greenville Pike, Grampian, 15666-1959 732-809-9013 (seasonal)
RUPERT, JACK - 409 State St, Johnstown, 15905-2642 - 814 322-7786 New Day – 814 535-8202
SHAFFER, ABBY R. - (office) 115 Spring Rd, Hollsopple, 15935-7412 - 814 479-2181
SMITH, A. HARRISON -506 Sciandro Dr, Greensburg, 15601- 724837-4491
STEIN, ROBERT R. - PO Box 375, Chalk Hill, 15421-0375 - 724 438-2226
SWICK, MICHAEL R. - 4127 Greenville Rd, Meyersdale 15552-8518 -814 634-8158
WALKER, JUDY M. -425 Morningside Ave, Jeannette 15644 - 724 522-5260
WALKER, LARRY E. - 425 Morningside Ave, Jeannette 15644 - 724 522-5260
WESTLAKE, ELVA JEAN -436 Pony Farm Rd, Kittanning, 16201-4639-724 548-4901
WILLOUGHBY, CAROLYN S.-207 Churchill St, Johnstown, 15904-814 266-9758

LICENSED

HILER, GARY W. - 228 Baltzer Bridge Rd, Friedens, 15541-6320 - 814 267-6722
HORNER, TAMMY - 124 Whysong Lane, Johnstown, 15906 – 814-244-0958
PARFITT, STEPHEN – 12 Mohawk Drive, Greensburg, 15601 – 724-832-3457
YOST, ERIC W. – 1009 First Street, Windber, PA 15963 – 814-241-7753

LAY SPEAKER

RAMER, DONNA L. -102 Franklin Dr, Greensburg, 15601-1305-724 836-0594



Since it is becoming increasingly more difficult to secure a crew of eleven volunteers via telephone, with the help of the District, I will be using email to communicate with churches and individuals to line up the necessary people to make the program work. This system, I hope, will streamline the process and eliminate missed calls and phone messages that sometime go unanswered. Missed calls and unanswered messages requires another time consuming telephone call, sometimes with the same results! After the receipt of an email, and after checking the printed schedule would you **PLEASE** consider giving a day or a week out of your busy schedules toward this very rewarding, worthwhile ministry. PLEASE contact your church coordinator to volunteer. If your church does not have one PLEASE contact Herb Ewald at hjewald@atlanticbb.net or (814) 539-8530.

THANK YOU!

New Windsor Day Trips

Jun. 06, 2018
Jun. 26, 2018
Aug. 09, 2018
Aug. 28, 2018
Oct. 04, 2018
Nov. 08, 2018
Nov. 27, 2018
Dec. 18, 2018

Week Trips

May 13-19, 2018 Project #2
July 22-28, 2018 (w/Mid. Atl)
September 02-08, 2018
October 14-20, 2018 (w/Virlina)
December 02-08, 2018

ATTENTION PASTORS!

You and one to three of your church members are invited and encouraged to attend the Restored Power Retreat in May. Please use this event as a time to refresh yourself and your congregation by coming to Camp Harmony.

The Friday evening session at 7:00 PM, will include a time of worship, prayer, and fellowship. On Saturday we'll share breakfast and sessions with Jon Graf on "Becoming a Praying Church One Tweak at a Time" until lunch. In the afternoon there will be more with Jon and a closing by 3:00 PM.

The Spiritual Formation Team is asking for your prayers for this event. We pray that the Holy Spirit will surround the participants with power for the journey of ministry in our Western PA District.

Registration information can be found on the other side of this page.

We hope to see you at Camp on May 18 and 19!

Grace and Peace,

The Spiritual Formation Team:

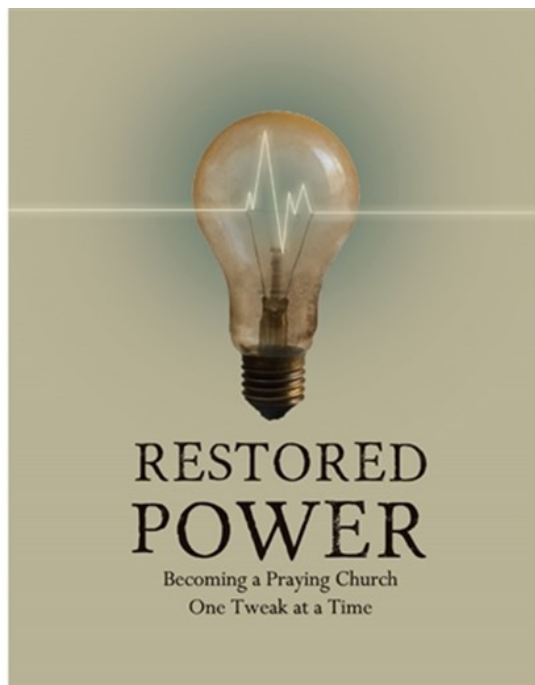
Suzie Moss, chair

Jessica Webster, vice chair

Diane Bittner, secretary

David Herring

Donald Peters



2018 Pastor's Retreat

**Friday, May 18, 7:00 PM
to Saturday, May 19, 3:00 PM**

Camp Harmony, Hooversville PA

This years theme is "Restored Power"
and will be lead by Jonathan Graf
from Harvest Prayer Ministries

Each pastor is encouraged to invite one
to three people from their congregation
to attend. **Pastors will receive .5 CEUs.**

Mr. Graf has been involved in prayer ministry both in the local church and in the international prayer movement since 1995, serving in a number of capacities including serving as the President of the Church Prayer Leaders Network and the Vice President of Harvest Prayer Ministries.

Jon's passion beats for prayer and raising up more praying people in the local church. His speaking ministry primarily targets the average believer in the pews. He has a winsome style that seeks to motivate through encouragement rather than through guilt.



The cost for the retreat is \$60.00 per person, which includes, lodging, breakfast, lunch, use of facility, and speaker. **Registration deadline is Friday, May 11, 2018.**

Please fill in the form below, make checks payable to **Western PA District**, and mail to:
115 Spring Road, Hollsopple, PA 15935.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you want CE credit? _____

Amount enclosed for the Restored Power Prayer Retreat _____

THE MOUNTAIN ANTHEMS



The Mountain Anthems are coming to Mt. Joy Church on
Sunday, April 29, at 10:45 a.m.

The **MOUNTAIN ANTHEMS** Mixed Chorus is
an A Cappella gospel choir of mixed voices who hails from the
Allegheny Mountains in Somerset County, Pennsylvania
and Garrett County, Maryland,
nestled at an altitude of over 3000 feet.

The chorus members come basically from one church,
the Mountain View Mennonite Church, Salisbury, PA.

Everyone is encouraged to come out
to hear the gospel through their songs.

Mt. Joy Church is located at:

494 East Main Street

Mt. Pleasant, Pa 15666

(1 mile east of Mt. Pleasant on Route 31)

Bro. Lee Smith is the Pastor at Mt. Joy



Nathan Rittenhouse

WHERE: Mt. Joy Church of the Brethren
(church is located 1 mile east of Mt. Pleasant on Route 31)
494 East Main Street
Mt. Pleasant, Pa 15666

WHEN: Sunday, May 6, 2018

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

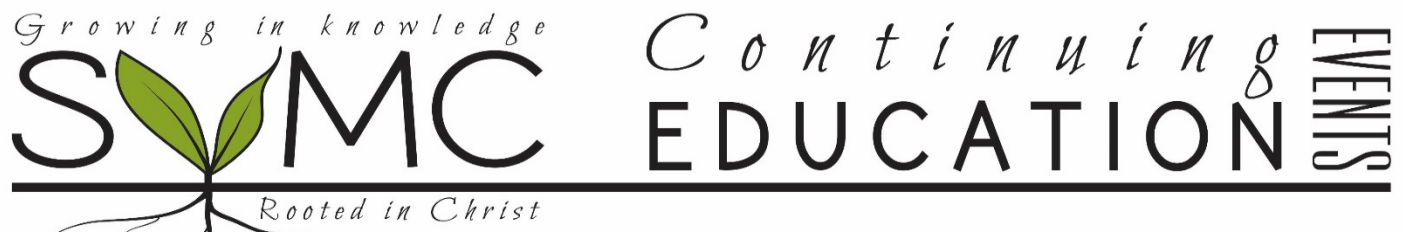
TOPIC: Journey in Discipleship

Nathan is an Itinerant Speaker with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries. He was graduated from Bridgewater College in Virginia with a double major in Physics and Philosophy and Religion, and a minor in Mathematics before attending the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics. He holds an M.Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Nathan spent the last three years traveling and speaking in universities throughout New England, and is currently focusing on the Mid-Atlantic region.

Ravi Zacharias International Ministries is a global team of speakers with offices throughout the world in: the United States, Canada, Latin America, Africa, the United Kingdom, Spain, Romania, Turkey, the Middle East, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Australia. The primary mission of Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM) is to reach and challenge those who shape the ideas of a culture with the credibility of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Distinctive in its strong evangelistic and apologetic foundation, the ministry of RZIM is intended to touch both the heart and the intellect of the thinkers and influencers of society through the support of the visionary leadership of Ravi Zacharias.

The emphasis of RZIM is on equipping Christians to fulfill the mandate of I Peter 3:15, to set apart Christ in our hearts as Lord and always be prepared to give a reason for the hope that is within us, with gentleness and respect, all for the glory of God.

Visit their website at rzim.org for more information about Ravi Zacharias International Ministries.



SVMC Continuing Education Event

Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center's continuing education events are designed for ordained Church of the Brethren ministers, but non-Brethren clergy and interested laypersons are also welcome to attend. For more information, and to register for any of the events listed below, please click on the title link, or go to:

<https://www.ETOWN.EDU/programs/svmc/continuing-education.aspx> . Print registration form and mail to SVMC.

Current 2018 offering:

[The Body of Christ in Corinth and America](#)

Date: October 15, 2018, 9 AM - 4 PM

(Please note: Title was originally "Gospel of Peace"; Date was originally November 12)

Location: Juniata College

Presenter: Dr. Daniel Ulrich, Wieand Professor of New Testament Studies, Bethany Theological Seminary

In response to news about divisions within the house-churches in Corinth, Paul's effort to repair the beloved body of Christ included writing an instructive letter. The thesis of that letter is an appeal for unity and reconciliation (1 Cor. 1:10). As Christians who may also need reconciliation, let's gather to study 1 Corinthians with Paul's overall purpose and message in mind. We will not ignore some passages that figure in our divisive debates today, but we will interpret them contextually, showing how the message of the cross and the Spirit's gift of love can still work to heal Christ's body.

Registration: \$60 (includes light breakfast, lunch, and 0.6 CEUs). Please register by October 1, 2018.



CAMP HARMONY

A ministry of the Church of the Brethren
1414 Plank Road, P O Box 158
Hooversville, PA 15936-0158

E-mail: harmony@campharmony.org
<http://www.campharmony.org>
(814) 798-5885 FAX: (814) 798-2225

*"Inviting all people to experience the wonder of
creation, and find harmony with God, with nature, and
with one another"*

2018 "52 GOD BLESS YOU TEAM"

As more and more families are blessed they contribute \$1.00 a week or \$52.00 to Camp so that the ministry can bless others. The original premise was that if all the families in the District contributed \$52, the debt could be eliminated. At the present the 2018 team totals 24 families and 2 total congregations.

* * * * *

SOLD OUT

About 15 volunteers helped at Camp to make 340 nutrolls – They were all sold. Thank you.....

* * * * *

LOOKING AHEAD - * Poster included for information

April 28, 29 – Craft and Flea Market Bazaar – Clean out your closets now.*

May 6 – Hoss's Fund Raiser - Richland Restaurant*

* * * * *

THANK YOU

If you didn't participate in the Lenten Services this year, you missed out on very inspirational services. On behalf of Camp, thank you to all who gave through the love offerings at the services. At the present \$2736 was given towards your ministry.

* * * * *

HIGHMARK WALK FOR A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Join us on May 19, 2018 in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community as we participate to raise funds for our camp scholarship program. Hundreds of children and youth visit Camp Harmony every summer to experience nature and adventure, meaningful relationships, significant memories and spiritual transformation. Each summer camp provides scholarships for those needing financial assistance. Please consider helping us as a walker raising funds or a donor so more kids can come to Camp Harmony. Contact a Camp Board Member or Staff Member to donate or walk on a team. Our goal is \$5,000 for scholarships. At this time over half of our goal has been reached.

* * * * *

WHAT A DEAL – On May 6 if you go out to eat at Hoss's Restaurant in Richland you can make money for Camp. Our last fundraiser was such a success we are doing it again at a different restaurant. Just use the attached poster when you enter. Thank you for your endorsement – have fun.

* * * * *

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are presently preparing for our Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) where we provide meals to children in the community who are on free and reduced lunches during school. In order for us to provide this service and a very worthwhile ministry, we are in need of volunteers to drive to nearby sites and deliver the food. One day a week for an hour is all that is needed. If you are interested and willing to help please contact Camp.



CAMP HARMONY



Fourth Annual

Indoor Craft & Flea Market Bazaar

2018

Explore Local Crafters
Shop Popular Vendors
Discover Used Treasures

2018

Saturday, April 28 10am - 5pm

Sunday, April 29 1 - 5 pm

Concessions Available

Call to reserve a table!

Proceeds benefit the
ministry of
Camp Harmony

\$50 Craft/Vendor
\$25 Flea Market



www.campharmony.org

1414 Plank Road Hooversville, PA 15936 814-798-5885 harmony@campharmony.org



Camp Harmony

PO Box 158, 1414 Plank Road, Hooversville, PA 15936

814-798-5885

www.campharmony.org

Indoor Craft & Flea Market Bazaar Registration Form

Please complete this application and return with registration fee by April 13, 2018

Section you are registering for: Craft/Vendor____ Flea Market ____

Individual/Business Name: _____

Contact Person(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Table Type (circle): Craft/Vendor Table/Direct Sales (\$50 per event) Flea Market (\$25)

Each registrant is provided with a 10'x10' area, one table, and two chairs.

Table Description (Items sold/offered, display requirements, etc.):

Will you need electricity? Yes____ No____

Special requests/needs:

I understand that this registration reserves my space and I commit to attending the event and providing the goods or services listed.

I agree to abide by all terms and conditions (listed in the confirmation letter you will receive) set forth by the venue in regards to conduct, set-up, tear-down, and payment. Camp Harmony is not responsible for any lost, broken, damaged, or stolen items.

Name (please print)

Signature

Date

Sunday May 6, 2018 – All Day Fundraiser Hoss's in Richland Township



Dear Friend of Camp Harmony:

We are excited to team up with Hoss's Steak and Sea House to raise money for a very worthy cause. Please consider visiting the Hoss's location(s) listed below on 5/6/2018 to aid us in raising money to benefit Camp Harmony.

Print and present this flyer on 5/6/2018 at Hoss's in Richland Township and they will donate 20%* or 25% of your total check paid to Camp Harmony.**

*To qualify for the 20% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$300.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

**To qualify for the 25% payout, our group must have a minimum of \$1,200.00 in total pre-tax food and beverage sales.

This applies to a one-day, single location, pre-scheduled event. The purchase of gift cards is not included as part of your organization's community fundraising totals.

DISTRIBUTING INVITATIONS ON HOSS'S PROPERTY IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL DISQUALIFY OUR ORGANIZATION!

Thank you for your cooperation!

Group #95963

Please print and present this email when ordering.





CAMP HARMONY



PAUL BUNYAN FIREWOOD DAYS



May 11-12, 2018

Grab your tools and a couple of friends and head to Camp for the Spring 2018 Paul Bunyan Firewood Days on Friday May 11 and Saturday May 12. The wood boxes at camp are getting empty, so we are in need of lots of help! Meals and lodging will be provided if you would like to stay. If you have your own equipment and you would be willing to bring them, we would appreciate it. Camp has 2 chain saws and possibly 2 splitters. After cutting all day if you stay we will enjoy sitting around the fire telling stories and fellowship. There will be jobs for all ages on this work day, the more the merrier.

Please contact the camp office and let us know you're coming!

www.campharmony.org

1414 Plank Road Hooversville, PA 15936 814-798-5885 harmony@campharmony.org

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REPORTS

Thanks very much for keeping the reports coming in! The **NEW Form B** that comes from the Yearbook Office in Elgin and updates contact information about your congregation's board or leadership team chair, the treasurer, a deacon contact, and a number of other contact persons will be coming to congregations and contact persons soon. Please be sure to review the material provided on Form B and make updates as they are needed. **Complete addresses and phone numbers are appreciated**, as well as email addresses, if they are available.

In addition, the **Congregational Outreach Form** for 2017/2018 had been sent from the COB Stewardship Office and was due by December 1, 2017. If you have a question, you will need to contact the Stewardship Office at 800-323-8039, ext. 361. A downloadable version of the form, as well as a new fillable option is also available at www.brethren.org/stewardship. Feel free to use that option in order to switch to paperless reporting.

The forms listed below were received in the *District Office* as of October 20. ***ALL of these informational forms are important to both the district and the denomination.*** The updated forms are sent to Elgin and they provide a copy for the District Office. If you have a question about a form, please don't hesitate to contact Tina at 814 479-2181 or toll free 1-866-279-2181. Your prompt attention to this task will be appreciated. Thanks!

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2017 Statistical Report	Additional Officers	Self-Allocation
37-010	Arbutus		•	•	•	•
37-015	Beachdale					•
37-020	Bear Run		•			
37-030	Berkey		•			
37-050	Bethel		•	•		•
37-060	Brothersvalley			•	•	•
37-068	Canaan		•	•		•
37-070	Center					
37-080	Center Hill				•	
37-090	Conemaugh		•			•
37-100	Connellsville		•	•	•	•
37-110	County Line		•	•	•	•
37-130	Elbethel					
37-140	Erie Community United					
37-150	Fairchance		•	•	•	•
37-160	Fair View				•	
37-170	Farmington Bethel		•			•
37-190	Geiger		•			
37-195	Good Samaritan					•
37-200	Greensburg				•	•
37-210	Greenville			•		•
37-220	Hooversville		•	•		•
37-230	Hostetler		•	•	•	•
37-240	Hyndman			•		
37-250	Indiana		•	•	•	•
37-310	Ligonier First		•	•	•	•
37-320	Locust Grove		•	•	•	•
37-340	Maple Glen					
37-350	Maple Grove					
37-360	Maple Spring			•		
37-380	Meyersdale		•		•	•
37-390	Middlecreek					
37-400	Monroeville					
37-410	Montgomery		•			

Church Code	Church Name	Form A	Form B	2017 Statistical Report	Additional Officers	Self-Allocation
37-260	Morrellville					
37-420	Mount Joy		•	•	•	•
37-430	Mount Pleasant					
37-270	Moxham			•		•
37-440	Nanty Glo		•	•	•	•
37-450	Natrona Heights					•
37-460	Oakdale					
37-470	Penn Run					•
37-475	Pike Run					
37-480	Pleasant Hill		•			
37-500	Plumcreek		•	•	•	•
37-505	Purchase Line				•	•
37-508	Rayman					
37-510	Robinson		•	•	•	•
37-520	Rockton					
37-530	Rockwood		•			
37-280	Roxbury		•		•	•
37-540	Rummel		•	•	•	•
37-550	Salisbury				•	•
37-560	Scalp Level		•	•	•	•
37-570	Shade Creek/Ridge			•		•
37-580	Sipesville		•	•	•	•
37-590	Somerset		•	•	•	•
37-620	Ten Mile					
37-630	Tire Hill		•		•	•
37-635	Union Chapel					•
37-640	Uniontown		•	•	•	•
37-290	Walnut Grove					•
37-645	Way of Hope		•		•	•
37-300	Westmont		•			
37-650	Windber				•	
37-660	Wooddale					•

2018 District Events and Meetings

This calendar will be updated as we receive dates from your groups, please send your important dates to the District Office ASAP to insure they will be on the District Calendar. Thank you.

EVENTS ARE CODED AS...

- District Events open for anyone in the District to attend - CAPS
- Meetings such as District Leadership Team, Camp Board, Home Trustees, and events beyond the District - small print
- Youth and Children's Activities - *ITALICS & CAPS*

SUGGESTIONS FOR USE...

- **KEEP FOR REFERENCE WHEN SETTING LOCAL CHURCH DATES.**
- Each month check this page in District HIGHLIGHTS for changes/additions.
- Keep *your* calendar updated.

MAY 2018

- 3 - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- 3 - Home Auxiliary Meeting
- 3 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 4-5 - DWM Spring Retreat, TBA
- 6 - *NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY*
- 10 - ASCENSION DAY
- 12 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 14 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 13 - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 18-19 - Pastors' Retreat "Restored Power", Camp Harmony
- 20 - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! (Pentecost Sunday)
- 28 - MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE 2018

- 3 - Annual Conference Briefing, Rummel COB, 3 pm
- 7 - DWM Camp Day, Camp Harmony
- 17 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

JULY 2018

- 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 4 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (begins), Cincinnati, Ohio
- 8 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE (concludes), Cincinnati, Ohio
- 16 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 19 - Core Leadership Team 6 p.m., (District Conference Business)
- 21-26 - NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE, Fort Collins, Colorado
- 27 - District Leadership Team, 6 p.m., (District Conference Business)

AUGUST 2018

- 1 - Brethren Home Auxiliary
- 11 - DWM Summer Tea, TBA (alternate day Aug. 18)
- 12 - Stewardship Sunday
- 31 - Camp Harmony Gospel Festival Begins

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 3 - Camp Harmony Gospel Festival Concludes
- 3 - LABOR DAY
- 6 - Brethren Home Auxiliary Key Ladies Luncheon
- 10 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 13 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 21 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE
- 22 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 22-23 - Harmony Fest, Campy Harmony
- 29 - Honduras Mission Dinner, 5 pm, Camp Harmony

OCTOBER 2018

- 4 - DWM Brethren Home Day
- 7 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 20 - District Conference, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony

NOVEMBER 2018

- 1 - Brethren Home Auxiliary Meeting
- 3 - THIRTEENTH ANNUAL DISTRICT AUCTION, 9 a.m., Camp Harmony
- 4 - **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS (Turn clocks *BACK* one hour)**
- 8 - Core Leadership Team, 6 p.m., District Office
- 12 - District Women's Ministries meeting, 1 pm, District Office
- 17 - District Leadership Team, 9 a.m., TBA
- 22 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

DECEMBER 2018

- 2 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 8 - *CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY – Camp Harmony – more information to come*
- 9 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 16 - THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 23 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- 24 - Christmas Eve
- 25 - MERRY CHIRSTMAS!!
- 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE

PLEASE NOTE

Dates will be added or changed as needed. If your District group, team, or committee has additions or changes to this calendar, please contact the District Office as soon as possible. Your help is much appreciated!